

American Opinion Summary

Department of State

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As. 19:

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1. Disappointment Concerns Art. Partial Termination
2. 1961

3. 1961

As before, Mr. Dean was known as a general counsel and a negotiator. His departure immediately lowers the feeling that he has become discouraged with the slow pace of the proceedings," the St. Louis Post-Dispatch comments. "And Mr. Dean is a man who is not easily discouraged."

The St. Louis Post goes on to mention that "the calmly persistent" Dean gave a clear indication that "despite his belief in the need for a treaty, he is not at all put into any danger that could result of being unable to nourish."

Mr. Dean's departure from the State Department has been widely noted. "The feeling grows that there is little point in continuing the talks until the Russians change their policy," the New York Times states. "Herzog-Howard's Washington News says that if we are to go on 'with the force of trying to negotiate with the Communists, it is too bad' Mr. Dean 'couldn't see his way to staying.'"

The St. Louis Post concludes that "the Soviets have obviously determined that a nuclear test ban is not in their interests now or in the foreseeable future," and suggests that "U.S. diplomatic missions and information agents should make this fact perfectly clear to all the peoples of the world."

There is an emerging consensus in this country that there must be a new approach," according to the Washington Post. "The Post interprets this as 'a kind of tribute to Arthur H. Dean,' because if he 'could not make any progress in his patient and untiring effort...there is not much likelihood that anyone else can.' The Post goes on to suggest: 'If we cannot have disarmament, perhaps we could make some progress toward arms control and toward methods of minimizing the possibilities of internationalizing and accident.'"

2. GUTS

Initial reaction to the joint U.S.-Russian report to the UN of termination of their Cuban discussions focused on the "tone" expressed that actions taken to avert war over Cuba will ease tensions in other areas.

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CUBA
(Cont'd.)

The Washington Star feels the U.S.-Soviet accord "is not unpromising." The assumption is that Russian troops will be recalled from Cuba in the period immediately ahead, says the Star; and despite failure to get on-site verification of weapons removal, Washington will maintain constant surveillance of Cuba, and Moscow "apparently is quite amenable" to this. The Star concludes that "on the whole, America seems to have come out of the crisis quite well."

But in view of the points of dispute that continue unresolved, adds the Philadelphia Inquirer, "it should be clear to Khrushchev and Castro that the U.S. is compelled to reserve the right to take whatever action may be required in the future--including, possibly, the invasion of Cuba--to counter any further offensive threat."

The Chicago Tribune, meanwhile, sharply re-examines the probabilities for intervention as a hopeful outcome. The conclusion of "something more than two months of stalemate" ended on Cuba in which the parties "got nowhere on the issues in controversy." David Lawrence sees Russia left with "a pyrrhic victory, and the U.S. with a defeat and a reversal" of the Monroe Doctrine.

The prospects of a "strenuously and carefully monitored discussion" in Washington. Scrappo-Howard's Washington News hopes that the "hanging question of what use might be made" of the Soviet forces in Cuba came in for "prominent and conclusive discussion" between the President and Russian minister Khrushchev yesterday.

With others, Time warns that while the Russians have removed missiles and bombers, "they are apparently still pumping 'defense' arms" into Cuba (e.g., Marguerite Higgins, Newsweek). With "company of undisclosed power hidden in Cuba," John S. Knight, adds: "Having been fooled once, could it not happen again?" The Chicago Sun-Times complains of "a relaxation" lately of Washington's "get tough attitude" toward Castro.